

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER
HELD AT THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CENTER,
30200 TOWN CENTER ROAD, BEECHER, ILLINOIS
NOVEMBER 27, 2007 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Lohmann called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: President Lohmann and Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Public Works employees Joe Spanier and Floyd Burger, and Public Works Superintendent Harold "Bud" Cowger.

GUESTS: Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Bill Voss, Chuck Bruti, Joe Schudt, Andrew Ahrendt, Tom Brislane, Jeff Zimmer, Ken Miller, Brian and Danna Neville, Mitch Cadwallader, Roger Stacey, George Schuitema and Joseph Venturella.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the November 13, 2007 Board meeting and Public Hearing. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve the minutes with the following two changes: Minutes of regular meeting on page 4, under Streets and Alleys Committee, add to first paragraph that Public Works Superintendent Cowger stated if any additional leaf bags were left over after November 26th, that he would pick them up and put them on the brush pile. Add on page 6 under Planning, Building and Zoning, ordinance #1079, 3rd paragraph: Resident stated that if bottom of fence needs to be raised due to drainage that he would cut off a few inches. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was given. 2) A bill was presented for the Beecher Fourth of July Commission. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the bill in the amount of \$16.25 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: President Lohmann asked if there was any business from the audience. There was no response.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

A public hearing was held at 7:05 p.m. to consider a tax levy for 2007 collectible in 2008.

ORDINANCE #1081 - An ordinance adopting a tax levy for 2007 collectible in 2008. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve Ordinance #1081. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.
AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

A CMAP meeting to discuss Beecher and Crete's Facilities Planning Area (FPA) applications is scheduled for November 28, 2007 at 11:00 a.m.

President Lohmann reported that he met with Roger Claar of Bolingbrook regarding the boundary dispute between Crete and Beecher. The Mayor of Bolingbrook is serving as mediator between Crete and Beecher regarding this matter. Mr. Claar is recommending Crete and Beecher meet to try and negotiate a boundary agreement between the two communities. A color map was provided to all Board members for the FPA Amendment requests before CMAP. CMAP is asking the Village of Beecher to consider other boundaries besides Offner Road. Some of the areas that Beecher is being asked to consider to give to Crete, Beecher already has preannexation agreements with, recorded with Will County. A meeting has been scheduled for December 6th with the Village of Crete to discuss the FPA boundary. Board members were asked if they would consider FPA boundaries other than the areas previously requested. It was the consensus of the Board to stick with Offner Road as Beecher's FPA boundary. Board members were asked to talk to the Bolingbrook Mayor at the Will County Governmental League Christmas Party and let him know the Village Board's feelings on this issue.

Variance reports for the previous month were included in the packet for review.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Board considered an ordinance adopting an administrative fee of \$100 for all police tows involving criminal activity. Chief Weissgerber reported on a minor change in the final draft of the ordinance and Board members asked questions. Some questions were asked on the exceptions in the ordinance and whether they are defined correctly. After some discussion, Trustee Szymanski

recommended tabling the ordinance for further attorney review due to some concerns of wording. The matter was tabled until the next Board meeting.

The Board considered a request for a four-way stop at Lange and Orchard, as requested by resident Edward Simpson. Administrator Barber asked if Miller and Lange should also be considered for a stop sign. Staff indicated it was normal procedure in the past to due a traffic study of an area before putting in any new stop signs. Chief Weissgerber asked for criteria to conduct a traffic study. He will go back to previous traffic studies to determine criteria. The matter was deferred until the first Board meeting in January to give the Police Department a chance to conduct a traffic study of the area.

Trustee Cleary asked if Chief Weissgerber ever found out about the van in the Prairie Crossings area on Halloween, as discussed at a previous Board meeting. Chief reported that there were solicitors in the area as was previously thought.

C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

The Board considered a banner replacement program in conjunction with local businesses and the Chamber of Commerce. Trustee Cleary recommended continuing support of the Chamber by providing Village services to install banners, as has been done in the past.

Public Works Superintendent Cowger reported that leaf pickup will probably be completed by December 7, 2007.

D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE

Trustee Gardner made a motion to approve payment in the amount of \$12,207.81 to Constellation New Energy for two months of electric service for the wells and sewer plant. This bill did not get paid in October. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve a rental agreement with Dale Schilling for one retail location at 500 W. Indiana for the amount of \$2,700 up front for three months to be used as a special census office. This will be for January, February and March, 2008. A copy of the agreement was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

An update was provided on the Firemen's Park/OSLAD Grant project. The proof roll of the parking lot was conducted earlier in the day. The contractor is still planning to complete asphalt work in 2007. Pavilion and bathroom work is scheduled for winter. Regarding Firemen's #3 ball diamond, Beecher Recreation is planning to speak to their membership see if they are willing to improve that field.

An update was provided on Welton Stedt Park. A location is being considered for a maintenance shed. Construction would not occur until 2008.

F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

A Planning and Zoning Commission meeting is scheduled for November 29, 2007. The Commission will be considering recommendation on the concept plan submitted by Trinity for the intermodal park northwest of Beecher. This would then be considered at the December 18th Board meeting.

The Board considered authorizing the Village Attorney to draft an annexation agreement for Prairie Meadows Subdivision, as proposed by Chuck Bruti, south of Woodward Street and Southfield Drive. Chuck Bruti was present to answer questions. Questions were asked about the quantity of proposed houses. He is proposing 42 single family lots. Mr. Bruti was asked if he plans to develop the property or flip it like he did with Prairie Crossings South. Mr. Bruti indicated that he does not plan to flip this property. Issues of traffic and a second access were again discussed. After much discussion, Trustee Ahrendt made a motion based upon the number of residents signing our petition, no second access point, and for the safety concerns of our residents, to recommend denial of the project. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Ahrendt reported that the Board workshop held on November 20th was interesting and she would like to see the workshops continue.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Lohmann has been approached by ESDA Coordinator Gwen Dean about cots scattered between the Washington Township Center, the Community Building and the Police station. Ms. Dean wants to purchase a secure storage trailer to keep all of them together in the same place and maybe store the trailer by the Washington Township Center or the sewer plant. It was believed that the Village has a total of 40-50 cots. A 16' or 20' trailer on wheels may accommodate the cot storage. It was the consensus of the Board to have Gwen Dean pursue this and come back to the Board with a proposal.

President Lohmann announced that Beecher is to get a PACE bus. The bus driver can be a volunteer or get paid. President Lohmann felt Washington Township should pay a little bit more than one half

of the cost since Village residents pay township taxes. This will be proposed at the next Washington Township Board meeting.

President Lohmann appointed Chuck Hoehn and Ken Hameister to the Beecher Fourth of July Commission since he forgot to appoint them at the last Board meeting. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the appointments to the Fourth of July Commission. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

President Lohmann received a call from Santa Fe Nursery earlier in the day. The nursery wants to donate 10 trees to the Village. Superintendent Cowger will pick up the donated trees on November 28th.

The Will County Governmental League Christmas meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 13th at the Haley Mansion in Joliet. Interested Trustees should RSVP with Administrator Barber.

H. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Wehling was approached by a resident about implementing a leaf ordinance to require residents to remove the leaves from their property. It was discussed how to control and implement such an ordinance. President Lohmann suggested some type of incentive for people to mulch their leaves. Questions were asked about where leaves are supposed to be put out for pick up.

There being no further business to be discussed in open session, Trustee Szymanski made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:08 p.m. to discuss an employee's disability. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Szymanski made a motion to return to regular session at 8:25 p.m. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

There being no further business, President Lohmann asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner, Village Clerk